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Mexico

Post: Mexico

New Avian Influenza Regulations More in Line with OIE Standards

Report Categories:

Poultry and Products

Pest/Disease Occurrences

Sanitary/Phytosanitary/Food Safety

Policy and Program Announcements

Trade Policy Monitoring

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Report Highlights:

New avian influenza (AI) regulations which are more in line with OIE Standards were published in the *Diario Oficial* (Federal Register), on June 21, 2011. The new [sanitary measures for the diagnosis, prevention, control and eradication of Reportable Avian Influenza](#) (*influenza aviar notificable*)^[1] in Mexico follow the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) provisions for AI and outline the current situation in Mexico. New sanitary import requirements are expected to be developed over the next 60 days. During this time, market access for U.S. poultry exports will not be impeded.

[1] As defined in [OIE Terrestrial Animal Health Code, Avian Influenza, Article 10.4.1 General provisions 1 \(a\), \(b\).](#)

Executive Summary:

This report summarizes two notices published in Mexico's Federal Register on June 21, 2011 by the Secretariat of Agriculture, Livestock, Rural Development, Fishery and Food (SAGARPA). The first notice established new sanitary measures for the diagnosis, prevention, control and eradication of *Reportable Avian Influenza* in Mexico and is effective June 22, 2011 and the second notice cancelled the Mexican Official Regulation NOM-044-ZOO-1995, National Campaign against AI as previously published in the Federal Register on August 14, 1996.

General Information:

Disclaimer: This summary is based on a cursory review of the subject announcement and therefore should not, under any circumstances, be viewed as a definitive reading of the regulation in question, or of its implications for U.S. agricultural export trade interests. In the event of a discrepancy or discrepancies between this summary and the complete regulations or announcements as published in Spanish, the latter shall prevail.

Titles:

1. Zoo-sanitary measures for diagnosis, prevention, control and eradication of *Reportable Avian Influenza*, in the zones of the United States of Mexico.
1. Cancellation of the Mexican Official Regulation NOM-044-ZOO-1995, National Campaign against Avian Influenza.

Important Dates

Publication Date: June 21, 2011

2. Enforcement Date: June 22, 2011

The new regulations were promulgated to correct some inconsistencies and eliminate flaws that existed in NOM-044. The aim is to include good practices for poultry production, adopt equivalent international diagnostic tests, and allow the movement of poultry products between states that are not at risk of AI contamination, as long as certain requirements are met as established in the notice. Fresh or frozen meat and viscera processed at federal inspected facilities (TIF) located in areas recognized as low AI prevalence will also be allowed to move to areas recognized as AI-free or areas in the process of eradicating AI. Moreover, this notice includes regulations for the compartmentalization of Mexico, as well as provisions relating to risk analysis and immunizations as outlined by the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE).

Key Sections

Title III, Chapter I of the notice (Article 80) regulates the imports of poultry and poultry products. In addition, article 87 is related to equivalence of imports; they state:

Article 80. *For equivalence of requirements for imports of poultry goods, free compartments (AI free-areas) will be acknowledged as long as the exporting country acknowledges free Mexican compartments in an equivalent manner, in accordance with previously established bilateral protocols.*

Article 87. *The imports regulated by this notice should comply with the requirements established on the enquiry site for the zoo-sanitary requirements to import poultry goods, in accordance with the corresponding risk or epidemiological analysis as well as the requirements for domestic movement.*

In addition the interim version of Article 8 states the following:

Eighth. *Current import requirements for poultry goods remain in place for the next 60 days from June 22, 2011. During this period, SENASICA will publish new requirements on the enquiry site for consultation of import zoosanitary requirements. The new requirements will become effective 60 days after implementation of this notice (approximately August 22, 2011).*

FAS-Mexico Analysis:

The new AI regulations are more in line with international regulations and will allow the movement of some poultry products between different states of Mexico. One example is fresh or frozen meat and viscera processed at TIF facilities located in areas recognized as low AI prevalence. Said products will be allowed to move to other areas which are in the process of eradicating AI or have been recognized as AI-free areas. This change will allow Mexican firms the opportunity to supply markets that they have not traditionally supply due to AI restrictions.

Although this new regulations does not explicitly recognize the U.S. National Poultry Improvement Plan (NPIP) as equivalent, the exports of U.S. poultry and poultry products to Mexico for the time period will continue to have market access. As published, the notice establishes a transition period of 60 days, during which time the sanitary requirements for imports will be developed. Industry sources have confirmed that a request to deem the NPIP as equivalent has been submitted and Post believes this request will be granted. However, it will be necessary to monitor the development of the sanitary requirements to ensure no new import regulations are imposed.

For More Information

FAS/Mexico Web Site: We are available at www.mexico-usda.com or visit the FAS headquarters' home page at www.fas.usda.gov for a complete selection of FAS worldwide agricultural reporting.

FAS/Mexico YouTube Channel: Catch the latest videos of FAS Mexico at work

<http://www.youtube.com/user/ATOMexicoCity>

Report Number	Subject	Date Submitted
MX1030	Mexico Postpones the Implementation of Traceability Regulations	4/15/11
MX1021	Livestock and Products Semi-Annual	3/17/11
MX1013	Poultry and Products Semi-Annual	3/04/11
MX1011	Mexico Extends Temporary Procedures for Obtaining HRZs	2/11/11
MX1009	Mexico Initiates An Anti-dumping Investigation on U.S. CLQs	2/08/11
MX0090	New SENASICA System for Import Requirement Sheets (HRZ's)	12/03/10

Useful Mexican Web Sites: Mexico's equivalent to the U.S. Department of Agriculture (SAGARPA) can be found at www.sagarpa.gob.mx, equivalent to the U.S. Department of Commerce (SE) can be found at www.economia.gob.mx and equivalent to the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (SALUD) can be found at www.salud.gob.mx. These web sites are mentioned for the readers' convenience but USDA does NOT in any way endorse, guarantee the accuracy of, or necessarily concur with, the information contained on the mentioned sites.